



Tips on Preventing Auto Theft and Theft From Auto

1. Lock your car and close your car windows.
2. Don't leave valuables (purses, wallets, cameras, computers, etc.) in your car. If you have to, lock them in your trunk before arriving at your destination. Don't transfer them at the place you intend to park and leave your vehicle.
3. Briefcases, iPods, sunglasses, gym bags, money, even fishing equipment are tempting to thieves too!
4. Record serial numbers for portable electronic devices such as radios, CB's, DVD players, telephones, etc.
5. If you have a garage, use it. Keep your garage door closed.
6. Don't leave your garage door opener on the dashboard, above the visor, or on the seat. Hide it, or take it with you.
7. Park in well-lit areas.
8. There is a temptation to start the car in the morning and let it warm up – usually while you are out of sight in your home or apartment. This is a costly mistake! Many unattended cars are stolen while being warmed up.
9. Leave only the ignition key with a parking attendant in a commercial parking lot.
10. Car keys left at home (or at your business) should always be hidden and not left open to public view.
11. Keep your driver's license and vehicle registration with you. Left with the car, the documents can be used by a thief to impersonate you when transferring the car's ownership.
12. Don't keep your Certificate of Title in the car. Store it someplace safe!
13. There are locks made for various marketable parts of cars. Battery locks, wheel locks, and audio deck mounts can save these items plus any damage that may occur in the process of stealing them.
14. Commercially available alarms and anti-theft devices are also available. You may receive an insurance discount for installing such devices.
15. Install a locking gas tank cap to help prevent gasoline theft and limit a thief's driving range to one tank of gas.
16. Park the front wheel turned sharply to the right or left, making it more difficult for a professional thief to tow your car away.
17. Know your license plate number and keep your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) recorded with your business or personal records.
18. Call 911 as soon as a theft occurs.